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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 09/876,285 | 06/07/2001 | Jirka Stejskal | G&C 30566.185US01 | 9546 |
| 22462 | 7590 | 11/18/2004 | EXAMINER | |
| GATES & COOPER LLP HOWARD HUGHES CENTER 6701 CENTER DRIVE WEST, SUITE 1050 LOS ANGELES, CA 90045 | | | BULLOCK JR, LEWIS ALEXANDER | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2127 | |

DATE MAILED: 11/18/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 09/876,285 | Applicant(s) STEJSKAL ET AL. | |
| | Examiner Lewis A. Bullock, Jr. | Art Unit 2127 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 September 2004.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 8-20 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 8-20 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 6 is objected to because of the following informalities: The claim does not end in a period. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-6, 8-13 and 15-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by BARDASZ (U.S. Patent 5,689,711).

As to claim 1, BARDASZ teaches a method for providing access to application data items (arguments / values) of an application program (computer program / editor / visual programming environment) (col. 7, lines 59-66; col. 2, lines 41-45), the application data items (arguments / values) being contained in a plurality of interconnected data objects (data objects) processed by the application program (col. 6, lines 42-59), the method comprising the steps of: an extension object (operator object), that is associated with one of the plurality of data objects (data objects), receiving a request (operation / evaluation) related to at least one of the application data items (arguments / values), the request referring to the associated data object of the plurality of data objects; the extension object (operator) fulfilling the request with respect to the

Art Unit: 2127

data object referred to by the request by creating a data provider object (relation object) (via the API processor) that is configured to provide access to internal data of the associated data object (data object); and if the request concerns at least one other data object (another data object) of the plurality of data objects, the extension object forwarding the request to one or more additional extension objects (operator objects) that are each associated with other data objects (data objects) for further processing of the request (via the result of the evaluated operator may serve as an argument to other operators) (col. 6, lines 42-63; col. 9, lines 25-31; col. 10, line 56 – col. 11, line 5; col. 11, line 64 – col. 12, line 37).

As to claim 2, BARDASZ teaches fulfilling the request with respect to the other data object (data object) to which the request has been forwarded; and if the request concerns at least one further data object (data object), forwarding the request to the at least one further data object for further processing of the request (via the result of the evaluated operator may serve as an argument to other operators) (col. 6, lines 42-63; col. 9, lines 25-31; col. 10, line 56 – col. 11, line 5; col. 11, line 64 – col. 12, line 37).

As to claims 3-5, BARDASZ teaches wherein the data objects are interconnected in a way that, for each data object, zero or more data objects are associated thereto, and wherein each request (operation / evaluation) is considered as concerning at least some of the data objects associated to the data object referred to by the request (via

Art Unit: 2127

data objects being connected to a relation object) (col. 6, lines 42-63; col. 9, lines 25-31; col. 10, line 56 – col. 11, line 5; col. 11, line 64 – col. 12, line 37)

As to claim 6, BARDASZ teaches the request is a request for initialization of the access providing functionality (evaluation operation in order to access correct arguments for invocation) (col. 6, lines 42-63; col. 9, lines 25-31; col. 10, line 56 – col. 11, line 5; col. 11, line 64 – col. 12, line 37).

As to claims 8-10, BARDASZ teaches the request is for obtaining a collection comprising the names of all application data items (arguments) accessible via the data object (data objects) referred to by the request and any others thereto (evaluation operation in order to access correct arguments for invocation) (col. 6, lines 42-63; col. 9, lines 25-31; col. 10, line 56 – col. 11, line 5; col. 11, line 64 – col. 12, line 37).

As to claim 11, BARDASZ teaches creating an evaluator for a data object, calling the evaluator (via a evaluate call) with an expression comprising at least one name of the application data item contained in the data object or in any of the data objects associated thereto, evaluating the expression using obtained values of the application data items whose names are comprised in the expression, and outputting the result of the evaluation (returning the argument / the result of the evaluated operator which may serve as an argument to other operators) (col. 11, lines 16 – col. 12, line 37).

As to claim 12, BARDASZ teaches the steps of evaluating the expression and the outputting the result (col. 11, line 16 – col. 12, line 37) via an evaluate call. It is inherent within the teachings of BARDASZ that each call for evaluation, i.e. a recalculation event, would repeat the operations.

As to claim 13, BARDASZ teaches the result of the evaluation is output as an application data item (argument) of one of the data objects (data objects) processed by the application program (col. 11, line 16 – col. 12, line 37).

As to claim 15, BARDASZ teaches the application program is a CAD program, and the application data is the data processed by the CAD program (col. 7, lines 39-66).

As to claim 16, BARDASZ teaches the access is provided as an auxiliary function of the application program (via the API processor) (col. 7, lines 39-66).

As to claims 17-19, reference is made to a computer program product that corresponds to the method of claims 1, 2 and 15 and is therefore met by the rejection of claims 1, 2, and 15 above.

As to claim 20, reference is made to an apparatus that corresponds to the method of claim 1 and is therefore met by the rejection of claim 1 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over BARDASZ (U.S. Patent 5,689,711) in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (APA).

As to claim 14, BARDASZ teaches the functionality of the application program is not limited to a CAD system that receives commands from a designer and is intended to encompass the output produced by any software system based on the execution of a number of functions (col. 6, lines 18-36). However, BARDASZ does not teach that the application program graphical displays documents reflecting the data objects.

APA teaches that a CAD system can graphically display documents reflecting selected data objects (pg. 1, lines 23-27). It would be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that the data retrieved by the invention of BARDASZ would therefore be graphically displayed as detailed by the APA since the system of BARDASZ retrieves the data from data objects via operator and relation objects for access by the user. Therefore, it would be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of BARDASZ with the teachings of APA in order to graphically display retrieved data. .

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-6 and 8-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

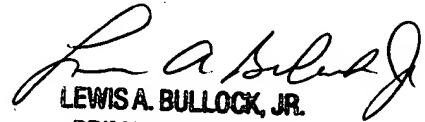
7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lewis A. Bullock, Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-3759. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


LEWIS A. BULLOCK, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

November 12, 2004